

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: Chair Dee Brown, on March 9, 2015 at 3:00 PM, in Room 335 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Dee Brown, Chair (R)
Sen. Roger Webb, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Robyn Driscoll (D)
Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R)
Sen. Sue Malek (D)
Sen. Lea Whitford (D)

Members Excused: Sen. Jedediah Hinkle (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Nadine Spencer, Committee Secretary
Rachel Weiss, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 251, 3/6/2015; HB 372, 2/26/2015; HB 400, 2/26/2015; HJ 8, 2/26/2015; HJ 12, 2/26/2015

00:01:08 Recess
00:05:26 Reconvene

HEARING ON HJ 12

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:05:43 Rep. Greg Hertz (R), HD 12, opened the hearing on HJ 12, Joint resolution recognizing the significance of the Miracle of America Museum.

[EXHIBIT](#)(sts48a01)

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:09:35 Chair Brown
00:10:05 Rep. Hertz
00:10:45 Chair Brown
00:11:07 Rep. Hertz

Closing by Sponsor:

00:11:16 Rep. Hertz

HEARING ON HB 251

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:12:48 Rep. Jeff Essmann (R), HD 54, opened the hearing on HB 251, Providing for temporary legislative aides.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:19:39 Sen. Malek
00:20:08 Rep. Essmann
00:20:37 Sen. Malek
00:21:30 Rep. Essmann
00:22:38 Sen. Malek
00:23:17 Rep. Essmann
00:23:37 Chair Brown

00:23:47 Sen. Whitford
 00:24:05 Rep. Essmann
 00:24:49 Sen. Whitford
 00:25:05 Rep. Essmann
 00:25:59 Sen. Whitford
 00:26:36 Rep. Essmann
 00:27:17 Chair Brown
 00:27:58 Rep. Essmann
 00:28:22 Chair Brown
 00:28:56 Rep. Essmann

Closing by Sponsor:

00:29:11 Rep. Essmann

HEARING ON HJ 8

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:30:09 Rep. Frank Garner (R), HD 7, opened the hearing on HJ 8, Joint resolution to study Montana Law Enforcement Academy funding.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:34:07 Jon Bennion, Department of Justice (DOJ)

[**EXHIBIT**](#)(sts48a02)

00:37:58 Jerry Williams, executive director, Montana Police Protective Association

00:38:36 Larry Epstein, Montana Association of Chiefs of Police and Montana County Attorneys Association

00:39:31 Shantil Siaperas, Montana Association of Counties

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:40:22 Chair Brown

00:40:31 Glen Stinar, administrator, Montana Law Enforcement Academy, Department of Justice (DOJ)

00:43:56 Chair Brown

00:44:17 Sen. Malek

00:44:31 Mr. Bennion, DOJ

00:45:08 Sen. Malek

00:45:38 Mr. Bennion

00:45:58 Sen. Malek

00:46:22 Mr. Stinar, DOJ

00:49:43 Sen. Malek

00:50:14 Mr. Stinar

00:50:46 Sen. Malek
00:51:11 Mr. Stinar
00:51:33 Sen. Whitford

Chair Brown left the hearing. Sen. Malek took over the duties of the chair.

00:52:13 Mr. Bennion
00:52:56 Sen. Whitford
00:53:07 Mr. Bennion

Chair Brown returned to the hearing and resumed the role as chair.

Closing by Sponsor:

00:53:54 Rep. Garner

HEARING ON HB 372

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:57:13 Rep. Frank Garner (R), HD 7, opened the hearing on HB 372, Repeal national guard bonus program laws.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

01:00:41 Major General Matthew Quinn, adjutant general, Montana National Guard;
director, Department of Military Affairs (DMA)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:02:13 Sen. Kary
01:02:30 Mr. Quinn, DMA
01:04:26 Sen. Driscoll
01:04:36 Mr. Quinn
01:05:04 Chair Brown
01:05:20 Mr. Quinn

Closing by Sponsor:

01:05:31 Rep. Garner

01:06:14 Chair Brown
01:06:19 Rep. Garner

HEARING ON HB 400

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:06:59 Rep. Geraldine Custer (R), HD 39, opened the hearing on HB 400, Allow electronic ballot for disabled voters.

01:08:57 Sen. Hinkle entered the hearing.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:09:13 Ed Eaton, volunteer advocate, AARP

01:10:24 Regina Plettenberg, clerk and recorder and election administrator, Ravalli County (MACR)

EXHIBIT(sts48a03)

01:19:33 Joel Peden, representing Montana Independent Living Centers

01:24:04 Shyla Patera, independent living specialist advocacy coordinator, North Central Independent Living Center

01:26:35 Beth Brenneman, Disability Rights Montana

01:28:04 Lisa Kimmet, elections and government services deputy, Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)

01:28:49 Shantil Siaperas, Montana Association of Counties

01:29:23 Braden Fitzgerald, Montana Public Interest Research Group

01:29:50 Linda Stoll, Montana Association of Clerks and Recorders and Election Administrators (MACR)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:31:08 Sen. Whitford

01:31:57 Ms. Kimmet, SOS

01:32:30 Sen. Whitford

01:32:44 Ms. Stoll, MACR

01:33:26 Sen. Whitford

01:34:12 Ms. Plettenberg, MACR

01:35:52 Sen. Kary

01:36:41 Ms. Kimmet

01:37:27 Sen. Kary

01:37:56 Ms. Kimmet

01:39:14 Sen. Kary

01:40:14 Ms. Kimmet

01:40:56 Sen. Kary

01:41:23 Ms. Kimmet

01:41:56 Ms. Plettenberg

01:44:09 Sen. Kary

01:44:27 Ms. Plettenberg

01:45:26	Sen. Kary
01:45:44	Ms. Plettenberg
01:46:53	Sen. Hinkle
01:47:36	Ms. Plettenberg
01:48:52	Sen. Hinkle
01:49:17	Ms. Plettenberg
01:49:49	Sen. Hinkle
01:49:59	Ms. Plettenberg
01:51:03	Sen. Hinkle
01:51:28	Ms. Kimmet
01:52:22	Sen. Hinkle
01:52:35	Ms. Kimmet

Closing by Sponsor:

01:53:27	Rep. Custer
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ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:00 PM

Nadine Spencer, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([sts48aad.pdf](#))